From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: DOJ Reportedly Wants T-Mobile and Sprint to Create Additional Wireless Carrier as Part of Merger
Date: Thursday, May 30, 2019 5:24:01 AM

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By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- Justice Department officials want T-Mobile US Inc. and Sprint Corp. to spin off a new full-fledged wireless carrier through its own network as a condition for gaining approval for their $26.5 billion deal, according to a person familiar with the matter, amid concerns about reducing the number of national carriers from four to three. T-Mobile and Sprint are also said to be considering additional concessions with the department after winning approval from Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai last

week. (Bloomberg)

- Twitter Inc. is investigating whether white supremacists should be banned from its platform, according to Twitter's legal and public policy head Vijaya Gadde, who added that the company is currently working with researchers to see if having such speech on the site "can act as a basis for de-radicalization." Gadde, attended a meeting with President Donald Trump and Chief Executive Jack Dorsey in April on the "health of the public conversation" on Twitter, did not name who the company is working with. (Motherboard)

- Documents provided by whistleblower Edward Snowden show the extent of the National Security Agency's surveillance tactics, including a situation where an agency intern targeted nine people in Iraq for death or capture and detailing the agency's surveillance of satellite internet systems in the Middle East. The information comes from a review of 287 articles from SIDtoday, the internal newsletter of the NSA's Signals Intelligence Directorate. (The Intercept)

Chart Review

Facebook: Fake account removal doubles in 6 months to 3B
The Associated Press

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

05/30/2019

AWE USA 2019

ITIF's Center for Data Innovation event on artificial intelligence	10:00 am
Cato Institute's panel discussion on free trade and propserity	12:00 pm

Financial Times' event on AI and the future of work	6:00 pm

05/31/2019

AWE USA 2019

FTC Cmr. Phillips keynote at Global Antitrust Economics Conference	9:00 am
Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board's public forum on USA Freedom Act and telephone records	10:00 am
Brookings Institution's conversation with CIA's privacy and civil liberties officer	10:30 am

06/01/2019

CircleCityCon

06/02/2019

CircleCityCon

06/03/2019

CircleCityCon

Apple's WWDC 2019

Fiber Broadband Association's Fiber Connect conference

New America's discussion with FCC Commissioners Mike O'Rielly and Jessica Rosenworcel on 5G deployment	12:00 pm

06/04/2019

Apple's WWDC 2019

Fiber Broadband Association's Fiber Connect conference

New America's panel discussion to launch its Data & Great Power Competition	9:30 am

06/05/2019

Apple's WWDC 2019

Fiber Broadband Association's Fiber Connect conference	
EPIC's panel on AI and human rights	1:00 pm
EPIC's Champions of Freedom Awards, including honorees Sen. Richard Blumenthal and Rep. Jan Schakowsky	6:30 pm

06/06/2019

Apple's WWDC 2019	
FT Future of News	8:00 am
Bloomberg's "The Rise of 5G: Empowering the Next Enterprise Evolution" event	8:00 am
FCC's June Open Commission Meeting	10:30 am

View full calendar

Introducing: Gen Z's Most Loved Brands

The definitive guide to which companies are winning over America's youngest generation.

General

Facial Recognition Technology Is Facing A Huge Backlash In The US. But Some Of The World's Biggest Tech Companies Are Trying To Sell It In The Gulf.

Megha Rajagopalan, BuzzFeed News

As a backlash against facial recognition technology grows in the US, a host of Chinese and American firms are competing to supply Dubai's police force with biometric surveillance and artificial intelligence products.

China has no good options for retaliating against Trump's Huawei ban
Vlad Savov, The Verge

US president Donald Trump has made Huawei the biggest story in tech right now by banning it from doing business with US companies. Huawei, China's tech champion, has lost access to Google's Android and Intel's chips, and it's even seen other international partners like ARM and Panasonic bowing to American influence and discontinuing trade.

China willing to meet reasonable rare earth demand from other countries
Stella Qiu and Ryan Woo, Reuters

China is willing to meet reasonable demand for rare earths from other countries, but it would be unacceptable that countries using Chinese rare earths to manufacture products would turn around and suppress China, its commerce ministry said.

California Assembly votes to tighten rules on contractors
Andrew Oxford, The Associated Press

California residents working for companies like Lyft and Uber would get the rights of employees entitled to a minimum wage and workers compensation under a law the state Assembly passed on Wednesday. The sweeping bill, which now goes to the Senate, carries new standards defining whether workers are employees or independent contractors, upending how workers are treated in industries from trucking to the burgeoning gig economy.

After four years of handing out money for European news projects, Google is expanding its funding to North America
Laura Hazard Owen, Nieman Lab

Projects, which should be related to local news or revenue generation, can receive up to $300,000 in funding. As in Europe, the launch comes with talk of

government regulation in the air.

Studies Don't Support Elon Musk's Autopilot Safety Claims
Matt Drange, The Information

For years, Tesla CEO Elon Musk has been making bold claims that the "Autopilot" feature that allows Tesla drivers to drive hands-free is safer than traditional driving. In 2016, for instance, he said that "half a million" people would be saved if Autopilot were more widely available.

How governments are beginning to regulate AI
Madhumita Murgia and Siddarth Shrikanth, Financial Times

In a historic step last week, 42 countries came together to support a global governance framework for one of the most powerful emerging technologies of our times - artificial intelligence.

U.S. Futures, Europe Stocks Advance; Bonds Steady: Markets Wrap
Yakob Peterseil, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures climbed with European stocks on Thursday as investors awaited the latest developments in the outlook for global growth and trade. Treasury yields steadied near their lowest since 2017.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

Elizabeth Warren puts a giant tech breakup billboard in San Francisco's face
Makena Kelly and Nick Statt, The Verge

On Wednesday, 2020 presidential candidate Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) put up a billboard in the heart of Silicon Valley pressing for big tech companies like Facebook, Amazon, and Google to be broken up.

Even Apple's ex-head of app reviews says App Store is unfair to Spotify, Netflix
Joan E. Solsman and Shara Tibken, CNET

Apple's former head of App Store approvals believes his former team is the best in the world - but the policies it enforces aren't.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Critics dismiss new FCC report showing increased broadband access
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on Wednesday released a report showing the number of Americans with access to high-speed broadband has increased in recent years, figures that were dismissed by the commission's two Democrats and outside consumer groups who say the FCC's data-collection practices are too faulty to yield substantive conclusions.

Huawei membership restored by SD Association, Wi-Fi Alliance
Sean Keane, CNET

Two tech standards groups that severed ties with Huawei apparently changed their minds pretty quickly. The Wi-Fi Alliance and SD Association last week apparently restricted and removed the embattled Chinese phone maker respectively, but it reappeared on both organizations' list of members this week.

Businesses Balk at FCC Bid to Block Robocalls
Sarah Krouse, The Wall Street Journal

Some businesses are pushing back against a regulatory proposal that would allow phone companies to block unwanted robocalls. Representatives for trade bodies that lobby on behalf of debt collectors, banks, health-care providers and other businesses met with Federal Communications Commission officials last week, urging them to delay a planned June 6 vote on the matter and instead seek public comment, people who attended the meeting said.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Following FTC complaint, Google rolls out new policies around kids' apps on Google Play
Sarah Perez, TechCrunch

Google announced this morning a new set of developer policies aimed at providing additional protections for children and families seeking kid-friendly

apps on Google Play. The new policies require that developers ensure their apps are meeting all the necessary policy and regulatory requirements for apps that target children in terms of their content, ads and how they handle personally identifiable information.

Uber will start deactivating riders with low ratings
Megan Rose Dickey, TechCrunch

Uber is now requiring the same good behavior from riders that it has long expected from its drivers. Uber riders have always had ratings, but they were never really at risk of deactivation - until now.

Silicon Valley lawmaker calls on Facebook to remove doctored Pelosi video
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

Rep. Ro Khanna (D-Calif.), who represents Silicon Valley, is calling for Facebook to remove the doctored video of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) that has gone viral on social media.

Facebook is investing hundreds of millions in a gigantic new solar farm
Adele Peters, Fast Company

On a huge piece of land in West Texas about five and a half times larger than Central Park, a massive new solar farm-one of the largest in the U.S.-is now under construction. For Facebook, which is investing hundreds of millions in the project, it's the next step toward a goal of powering its global operations with 100% renewable electricity by the end of next year.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

New York could soon pass its own GDPR-inspired data security law
Jeff Stone, CyberScoop

New Yorkers could soon have clearer insight into when, where and how their data has been compromised under the terms of a bill expected to pass this week in the state's legislature. The state's lawmakers are debating whether to approve a bill that would update the state's data breach notification law to cover more personal information and force firms to disclose ransomware

infections, among other measures.

The First Public Schools In The US Will Start Using Facial Recognition Next Week
Davey Alba, BuzzFeed News

Testing of the Aegis system begins in the Lockport City School District next week. It will track sex offenders, students and staff who have been suspended from school, and credible threats to student safety.

Democrats push election security legislation after Mueller warning
Jordain Carney, The Hill

Senate Democrats are doubling down on their push for Congress to pass additional election security legislation, after special counsel Robert Mueller warned about the threat of election meddling on Wednesday.

Amazon now lets you tell Alexa to delete your voice recordings
Jacob Kastrenakes, The Verge

Amazon is making it a little bit easier to delete Alexa recordings today with a pair of new voice commands. You'll now be able to say, "Alexa, delete everything I said today," and the assistant will wipe all of the recordings it stores on Amazon's servers.

Apple, Google and WhatsApp condemn GCHQ proposal to eavesdrop on encrypted messages
Sam Meredith, CNBC

Tech giants, civil society groups and Ivy League security experts have condemned a proposal from Britain's eavesdropping agency as a "serious threat" to digital security and fundamental human rights.

42 Million Dating App Records Exposed Online, Leaking User IP Addresses and Location Data
Dell Cameron, Gizmodo

A database containing records of tens of millions of users of various dating apps has been found publicly accessible, according to a researcher who says it remains unclear who amassed the data.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Worry About Facebook. Rip Your Hair Out in Screaming Terror About Fox News.
Farhad Manjoo, The New York Times

At the risk of losing street cred as a tough-as-nails tech pundit, I'll confess that I couldn't muster much outrage when Facebook declined last week to delete a video doctored to make Nancy Pelosi look like a drunken mess. Sure, there's a good argument that Facebook should have taken down the fake, as YouTube did.

Forget Mueller: Our pants are still down on election security, and Facebook can't save us
Kate Fazzini, CNBC

Special counsel Robert Mueller's press conference Wednesday, which briefly described his team's thinking about how they approached obstruction allegations against the president, buried one largely buried story about the entire affair: Then and now, we as a country still collectively have our pants down on cybersecurity.

Research Reports

S. 1289, Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband Act of 2019
Congressional Budget Office

1289 would require the Department of Commerce to submit a report to the Congress assessing the effects of broadband deployment on the U.S. economy. The first report would be due two years after the bill's enactment, with subsequent reports due every two years. Such reports would consider the effect of e-commerce, peer-to-peer commerce (such as Etsy), and the production of digital media on the U.S. economy.

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